

STAR (Students Taking Academic Responsibility)

Most Frequently Asked Questions

2010-2011

Question	Answer
1. What is the STAR program?	STAR is a program that provides innovative and specific instruction for students who are overage due to retention and gives students the opportunity to accelerate to the grade level of their kindergarten entry-level peers.
2. What grade levels may participate in STAR?	Students in grades 2-5 who are one or more years overage may participate if they meet certain requirements. Tier 3 third graders who are entering 3 rd grade for the third time will receive priority placement into a STAR Grade 4/5 program. Students who are 2 or more years overage will also receive priority placement.
3. What are the eligibility requirements for STAR?	Students must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be at least one year overage for their grade due to retention (priority given to students 2 or more years overage) • have a FCAT reading comp. score at or below level 2 with a priority given to level 1 students • have a grade of D or F in Reading or Math for the year prior to program entry • have completed phase I of the TARGET process with documentation attached.
4. Are there any exceptions to these eligibility requirements?	Yes, the two exceptions to these eligibility requirements are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Students twice retained in the third grade (tier 3), based on scoring Level 1 on the FCAT/SSR, will receive priority placement into the grade 4/5 STAR program. These students should be projected in April of the prior year. (2) Students who meet all eligibility except having a D or F in Reading or Math for the year prior to program entry.
5. Can ESE students qualify for the STAR program?	If they meet eligibility requirements, ESE students cannot be denied access to the STAR program; however, students should be considered for placement on a needs basis. Consider the student's disabilities and determine whether a STAR class would best meet his/her needs. STAR teachers are not trained in teaching students with ESE disabilities, and the intent of the STAR program is to accelerate students. Students who are on special standards are not good candidates for STAR.
6. When can a student apply to be in STAR?	Applications are accepted by the STAR centers, beginning April 15 th and ending on May 14 th . Students from feeder schools will be placed by June 1 st .
7. What does a STAR Center do to have a student considered for STAR?	A STAR Center must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determines if a student meets <u>all 4</u> eligibility requirements • send home the "Parent Notice of Eligibility" form for the parent to sign • completes the "Application Form" and attaches all of the required computer screens to verify eligibility • complete the "STAR Student Contract" complete with signatures. • The STAR teacher, guidance counselor and principal at the STAR Center will determine which students will be enrolled into STAR. <u>A copy of each accepted student's application form will be sent directly to Dana Kriznar, Office of Multiple Pathways, Building 3001, Room 428.</u>
8. What does a feeder school do to have a student considered for STAR?	A STAR feeder school must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determines if a student meets <u>all 4</u> eligibility requirements • send home the "Parent Notice of Eligibility" form for the parent to sign • completes the "Application Form" and attaches all of the required computer screens to verify eligibility <p>The guidance counselor and principal at the STAR feeder school will determine which students should apply to STAR. <u>A copy of each application packet will be sent directly to Dana Kriznar, Office of Multiple Pathways, Building 3001, Room 428.</u> <u>These students will be assigned as space is available by June 1st.</u></p>

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9. How do the parent and the home school know if the student is ACCEPTED into STAR?	The Office of Multiple Pathways notifies the home school of the students who are ACCEPTED into STAR and the STAR center must notify the parent to come in with the student for a conference to sign a "STAR Student Contract". This must be done before the student enters the STAR class.
10. How do the parent and the home school know if the student is NOT ACCEPTED into STAR?	If the student is NOT ACCEPTED into STAR he/she is placed on a waiting list by the Office of Multiple Pathways who then notifies the home school. The home school must then notify the parent. This should be done in a timely manner.
11. Are there requirements for remaining in STAR?	A student must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintain a "C" average or better in conduct • maintain a passing average in the core subjects • attend school on a regular basis • come to school on time • attend summer school.
12. Is it possible for a STAR student to be double promoted more than once?	Yes. If the student is double promoted, but is still overage for that grade level, he/she will be recommended for one or more additional years in STAR. If successful, he/she could earn another double promotion.
13. If a student is on his/her appropriate grade level, is he/she eligible for STAR?	No. If the student has been in STAR and has returned to his/her appropriate grade level, he/she no longer qualifies because he/she is no longer overage.
14. How is a STAR student removed from the program?	Whenever a student violates the STAR contract, he/she may be removed with principal approval. Every effort will be made to conference with the parent before the student is removed. The STAR teacher completes the Academic/Behavioral Intervention Sheet to document strategies used to help the student improve. A probationary period may be allowed before removal. Removal requires approval from the Dropout Prevention District Review Committee. A withdrawal form from STAR must be completed if the child is removed.
15. If a STAR student on special assignment is removed from the program, is he/she sent back to his home school?	Once the decision is made to remove the student from STAR, the STAR Center should contact the STAR office who contacts the School Choice office and follow Duval County Public Schools policy on revoking special assignment. The student should return to the home school if removed from STAR.
16. If a STAR student moves, can he/she still be in a STAR class?	If a STAR student withdraws only because of moving, the STAR student is eligible to be accepted into the STAR center determined by his/her new home school, if that STAR class is not full.
17. How long can a student remain in STAR?	A student may be in STAR for up to four years if he/she has the STAR teachers' recommendations for additional years.
18. What program codes does the school CRT enter on GENESIS screens when a child is placed into STAR?	For the STAR program, code U is the program code for all students, P is the sub program code for grades 2/3 and E is the sub program code for grades 4/5.
19. Who do I contact for assistance or more information about the STAR program?	Contact the guidance counselor at the home school or the Office of Multiple Pathways at 858-6080.